

UNCLASSIFIED

E60

ORIGIN WHA-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	A-00	USNW-00	DODE-00
	EAP-00	EUR-00	UTED-00	HHS-01	H-00	TEDE-00	INR-00
	IO-00	DCP-00	NSCE-00	OES-00	OIC-00	PA-00	PM-00
	GIWI-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	BBG-00	R-00	ECA-00
	PMB-00	DRL-00	SAS-00	/001R			

218436

SOURCE: CBLEXCLS.004941

DRAFTED BY: WHA/PDA:LSHAMILTON -- 10/08/2004 647-4726

APPROVED BY: WHA/PDA:GRGALLEGOS

PA: RAZIMMERMAN (SUBS)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION:

DRL/BA-DMTITUS, H-MTREJO, NSC-FARMSTRONG

-----6F741C 082108Z /38

P R 082059Z OCT 04

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

AMCONSUL NUEVO LAREDO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMCONSUL TIJUANA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL

USCINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA

USCINCSO MIAMI FL

USCINCSO MACDILL AFB FL//POLAD

UNCLAS STATE 218436

ALL POSTS FOR PAO, USSOCOM FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, KPAO

SUBJECT: WHA GUIDANCE, OCTOBER 8, 2004

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON  
DATE/CASE ID: 24 OCT 2005 200304736

UNCLASSIFIED

# UNCLASSIFIED

## Summary of Contents:

WHA Press Guidance, Oct 8 (Haiti, Venezuela, El Salvador, Caribbean)  
End Summary.

-----  
WHA PRESS GUIDANCE, OCTOBER 8, 2004:  
-----

-- SECURITY SITUATION IN PORT AU PRINCE --

Q: WHAT IS THE SECURITY SITUATION IN PORT AU PRINCE?

A: OUR EMBASSY REPORTS THAT THE SECURITY SITUATION IN PORT AU PRINCE IS TENSE, BUT THAT VIOLENCE IS SPORADIC AND MOSTLY CONFINED TO SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE CITY. THE HAITIAN POLICE AND UN FORCES ARE MAINTAINING ORDER THROUGHOUT MOST OF THE CITY.

UN FORCES AND THE HAITIAN POLICE HAVE ESTABLISHED A JOINT COMMAND CENTER TO COORDINATE POLICE ACTION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. WE BELIEVE THIS IS A KEY DEVELOPMENT IN MAINTAINING LAW AND ORDER. WEDNESDAY'S JOINT ACTION BY THE UN AND THE HAITIAN POLICE IN THE BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD OF PORT AU PRINCE, WHICH TARGETED VIOLENT PRO-ARISTIDE GANGS, WAS A GOOD FIRST STEP IN MAKING THIS STRATEGY WORK.

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION AT THE PORT? ARE RELIEF SUPPLIES GETTING THROUGH?

A: OUR USAID MISSION REPORTS THAT EIGHT CONTAINERS OF FOOD SUPPLIES LEFT THE PORT YESTERDAY AND THAT SUPPLIES ARE CONTINUING TO ARRIVE IN GONAIVES WITHOUT PROBLEM. THERE WERE REPORTS OF UNREST IN THE PORT AREA THIS MORNING, BUT THERE ARE SUFFICIENT FOOD SUPPLIES NOW ON THE GROUND TO MEET ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR SEVERAL DAYS AT LEAST.

IF RAISED

Q: WHAT ABOUT THE REPORTS OF BEHEADINGS BY GANGS?

A: PRO-ARISTIDE GANG MEMBERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF LAWLESSNESS AND DESTABILIZE THE GOVERNMENT. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF HAITIANS REJECT AND CONDEMN THESE HORRIFIC TACTICS. AS DOES THE UNITED STATES AND ALL CIVILIZED NATIONNS. AS I HAVE SAID ABOVE, VIOLENCE IN PORT AU PRINCE REMAINS SPORADIC AND LIMITED.

-- VENEZUELA: HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS --

UNCLASSIFIED

## UNCLASSIFIED

Q: DO YOU OBJECT TO THE MEDIA CONTENT LAW CURRENTLY BEFORE VENEZUELA'S NATIONAL ASSEMBLY??

A. WE HAVE GRAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE LAW, WHICH THREATENS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN VENEZUELA.

THE DRAFT LAW IMPOSES RESTRICTIONS ON MEDIA CONTENT AND ALLOWS THE GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCY, CONATEL, TO CENSOR CONTENT IT CONSIDERS HARMFUL TO "PUBLIC ORDER AND NATIONAL SECURITY."

WE ARE FOLLOWING VERY CLOSELY THE EFFORTS BY PRO-GOVERNMENT DEPUTIES IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO SECURE APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MEDIA RESPONSIBILITY LAW.

WE ARE DISAPPOINTED TO SEE THAT THE BILL IS UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION, GIVEN ITS ELEMENTS THAT ARE CONTRARY TO THE DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT VENEZUELANANS HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO PROTECT.

Q: ANY REACTION TO THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED OCTOBER 6 BY LILIANA ORTEGA OF VENEZUELAN HUMAN RIGHTS NGO "COFAVIC" ABOUT THE PENAL CODE REFORM BILL ALSO PENDING IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PERSECUTION OF ELECTORAL NGO "SUMATE"?

A. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE DRAFT LAW MODIFYING THE PENAL CODE, WHICH WOULD SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT VENEZUELAN NGO'S FROM RECEIVING DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN FUNDING ON THE GROUNDS THAT THIS REPRESENTS TREASON, AND WOULD PROHIBIT CERTAIN FORMS OF DEMOCRATIC PROTEST AND POLITICAL EXPRESSION. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSAL, IF IT BECOMES LAW, WOULD CRIMINALIZE THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN VENEZUELA.

WE ARE FOLLOWING CLOSELY DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SUMATE CASE, AND ARE CONCERNED AT THE REQUEST PENDING IN COURT FOR AN ARREST WARRANT FOR THE LEADERS OF THE GROUP. WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUMATE'S LEADERS HAVE VIOLATED ANY VENEZUELAN LAWS OR ITS CONSTITUTION.

FOR THESE REASONS, WE REMAIN CONCERNED MORE GENERALLY ABOUT THE HARRASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN VENEZUELA, AS IN ALL COUNTRIES WHERE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS ARE THREATENED.

IN ADVANCE OF THE OCTOBER 31 REGIONAL ELECTIONS, IT IS THE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO THE FREE EXERCISE OF BASIC RIGHTS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

-- SECRETARY POWELL TO MEET WITH EL SALVADORAN  
PRESIDENT ANTONIO ELIAS SACA --

KEY POINTS TO MAKE:

SECRETARY POWELL WILL MEET WITH PRESIDENT ANTONIO ELIAS  
"TONY" SACA OF EL SALVADOR ON OCTOBER 8, 2004, IN THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT

THE SECRETARY WILL EXPRESS THE GRATITUDE OF THE AMERICAN  
PEOPLE FOR EL SALVADOR'S CONTRIBUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE IRAQI  
PEOPLE

WE WILL ALSO DISCUSS EL SALVADOR'S ROLE IN THE CENTRAL  
AMERICA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT, REGIONAL SECURITY, AND THE  
FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING

-- CARIBBEAN REGION: U.S. HURRICANE RELIEF --

KEY POINTS:

SECRETARY POWELL'S OCTOBER 6 VISIT TO GRENADA UNDERSCORED OUR  
COMMITMENT TO HELPING THE REGION RECOVER.

TO DATE, WE HAVE PROVIDED DOLS 19.4 MILLION FOR RELIEF  
OPERATIONS. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ALSO REQUESTED DOLS 100  
MILLION IN SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR DISASTER RELIEF AID FOR  
THE CARIBBEAN. SHOULD CONGRESS APPROVES THIS REQUEST, WE  
WILL DETERMINE COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY FIGURES BASED ON AN  
ASSESSMENT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY'S NEEDS.

IF CONGRESS APPROVES THE DOLS 100 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET  
REQUEST, THE TOTAL U.S. DISASTER ASSISTANCE CONTRIBUTION TO  
THE REGION'S PEOPLE WILL BE DOLS 119.4 MILLION.

USG RELIEF EFFORTS ARE ALREADY MAKING A SIGNIFICANT  
DIFFERENCE IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

HAITI

DOLS 9.9 MILLION, INCLUDING DOLS 7.1 MILLION IN EMERGENCY  
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DOLS 2.6 MILLION FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. THIS INCLUDES DOLS 302,000 IN DRUGS  
AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN  
SERVICES HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO RE-SUPPLY THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL  
IN GONAIVES.

US FUNDS HAVE PAID FOR THE CLEAN-UP OF THE HOSPITAL IN  
GONAIVES, AS WELL AS THE RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF  
HOMES, WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEMS. MORE THAN 70,000

UNCLASSIFIED

## UNCLASSIFIED

RESIDENTS HAVE RECEIVED DELIVERIES OF BASIC FOODSTUFFS.

IN FLOOD-IMPACTED AREAS WE HAVE ALSO PROVIDED EMERGENCY SUPPLIES INCLUDING COOKING KITS, BLANKETS, HEALTH ITEMS, AND TEMPORARY SHELTER & CLEAN-UP SUPPLIES, INCLUDING 5,000 WATER JUGS, 3,660 HYGIENE KITS, AND 300 ROLLS OF PLASTIC SHEETING.

WITH FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE USG, NGOS ARE PUTTING HAITIANS TO WORK IN GONAIVES TO CLEAR ROADS AND DRAINAGE CANALS. THIS HAS THE DUAL IMPACT OF JUMP-STARTING RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS AND PROVIDING CASH TO INDIVIDUALS WITH IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

USG FUNDS ARE ALSO BEING USED TO PURCHASE THE TOOLS THAT ARE BEING SUPPLIED TO HOMEOWNERS TO HELP THEM REBUILD.

### GRENADA

DOLS 4.8 MILLION, INCLUDING DOLS 1,100,000 IN EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DOLS 3.7 MILLION FOR RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

OUR ASSISTANCE INCLUDES 20 GENERATORS THAT HAVE BEEN USED TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY FOR MEDICAL FACILITIES AND CRITICAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TO HELP THE ELECTRIC COMPANY RESTORE POWER TO 30 PERCENT OF THE ISLAND, INCLUDING A CRITICAL PUMPING STATION THAT IS NOW PROVIDING POTABLE WATER TO MOST OF THE POPULATION.

WE HAVE ALSO PROVIDED A WATER PURIFICATION UNIT, 4 WATER BLADDERS AND 10,160 WATER CONTAINERS THAT ARE PROVIDING POTABLE WATER FOR AN ADDITIONAL 10,000 PEOPLE DAILY.

12 DONATED CHAINSAWS ARE BEING USED FOR CONTINUED DEBRIS REMOVAL. MOST ROADS ARE NOW PASSABLE AND DEBRIS IS BEING SEGREGATED AND REMOVED FOR DISPOSAL.

1060 ROLLS OF PLASTIC SHEETING HAVE BEEN DELIVERED AND DISTRIBUTED TO THOUSANDS OF HOMEOWNERS AND BUSINESSES TO PATCH HOLES IN ROOFS AND WALLS.

HYGIENE KITS WITH BASIC MEDICAL AND PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO 5,000 FAMILIES, COMPRISING SOME 25,000 PEOPLE.

2 USAID-FUNDED PLANES ARE PROVIDING CONTINUOUS SUPPORT FOR RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS BY FERRYING IN PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES.

THE NEXT PHASE OF THE RECONSTRUCTION EFFORT, BEGINNING NOW, WILL INVOLVE REBUILDING HEALTH CLINICS AND SCHOOLS,

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

REVITALIZING THE ECONOMY BY PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
AND CREDIT TO SMALL BUSINESSES, AND PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR OF DAMAGED HOUSING.

JAMAICA

DOLS 4.2 MILLION, INCLUDING DOLS 700,000 IN EMERGENCY  
HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DOLS 3.5 MILLION FOR  
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

BAHAMAS

DOLS 450,000 IN EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

DOLS 50,000 IN EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE PEOPLE OF  
THE CARIBBEAN TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE THE SUPPORT THEY NEED  
TO RECOVER FROM THESE TERRIBLE NATURAL DISASTERS.  
POWELL

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED